

## **BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE ON ETHICS ORDINANCE**

Thursday, September 23, 2004

City Hall – Room 204

Present: Council Member Yeager, Chair  
Council Member Chavez  
Council Member Reed

Absent: Vice Mayor Dando

Staff: City Attorney Richard Doyle, City Clerk Lee Price, Norm Sato, City Attorney's Office, Peter Jensen, City Manager's Office

### **I Introduction**

Council Member Yeager called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. He stated that Council Member Chavez would be arriving about 4:00 p.m.

### **II Task Force Discussion of Work Plan Amendments**

Discussion ensued regarding Council Member Cortese's memo requesting that the Task Force discuss the Resolution of Censure (Council Policy 0-28) and, more specifically, options to consider for possible Council action as it relates to Council Member Gregory's alleged inappropriate activities. City Attorney Doyle advised that the matter would be more appropriately referred to the Rules Committee. Council Member Reed asked that the matter also be added to the Task Force work plan, perhaps as part of a discussion on enforcement. Council Member Yeager suggested that the Task Force consider this at their next meeting.

### **III Task Force Consideration of Revised Draft Gift Ordinance**

#### **Public Comment:**

Bobbi Fischler, League of Women Voters, expressed appreciation to the Task Force for allowing the public additional time to review the revised ordinance. She reported that the League's formal position is a policy of "no gifts", but finds the policy is acceptable. She asked that the City post to the website all statements of economic interest filed in the Office of the City Clerk within 15 days.

City Clerk Price gave a brief update on research in progress relating to the posting of campaign and lobbyist disclosure information on-line. She indicated that she would provide an additional update at a future meeting.

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City Attorney Doyle responded to brief questions. Task Force Members Yeager and Reed recommended that the ordinance, as revised, be forwarded to the City Council for approval on October 5, 2004.

#### IV Task Force Discussion of Recommendations for Revisions to the Revolving Door Ordinance

Senior Deputy City Attorney Sato provided an overview of proposed revisions to the revolving door policy. Following discussion, the City Attorney was directed to revise Section 12.10.030 to clarify “work on any matter”; to add language in the enforcement section that will: a) allow for an “inquiry” versus an “investigation, and consider the giving of advice or guidance by the City Attorney if questions are raised (i.e.: “can reasonably rely on the advice of the City Attorney in order to comply...”).

The matter will return to the Task Force on October 12, 2004. The City Clerk was asked to provide copies of the revised draft to the full Council and members of the public.

#### V Task Force Review and Discussion of Issues Regarding Officeholder Accounts (intent and restrictions) and Fundraising Provisions

Senior Deputy City Attorney Sato summarized the current ordinance. Assistant to the City Manager Jensen provided an overview of a comparative chart. City Attorney Doyle provided a recap on the recent Elections Commission hearing about a complaint filed about the Mayor’s Political Action Committee.

Council Member Chavez arrived at 4:10 p.m.

Following discussion, staff was directed to bring back more information about political action committees (PAC), how other large cities regulate their officeholder accounts and PACs and, further, indicated an interest in discussing further specific limits (raise? lower: aggregate? something different for the Mayor?) and use of the funds.

#### VI Oral Communications

There was none.

VII Adjournment / Next Meeting

Council Member Yeager mentioned that the October 12, 2004 would be an evening meeting so the Public can testify. He asked staff to place public comments at the beginning of the meeting and then suggested the Task Force take up proposed amendments to the work plan and continue discussions on officeholder accounts.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.